

### **REMARKS**

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated October 3, 2006. Claims 3, 6, 42, 50, 56, 57, and 60 to 63 have been cancelled herein, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 to 41, 43 to 49, 51 to 55, 58, and 59 remain in the application, of which claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 19, 40, 43, 48, 51, 53, 54, and 58 have been amended herein. Claims 1, 40, 48 and 53 are the remaining independent claims. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Initially, the Examiner's indication that claims 6 to 12, 26 to 32, 42, 43, 45, 46, 50, 51, 57 and 58 contain allowable subject matter is acknowledged with appreciation. In response, the substance of allowable claim 6 and intervening dependent claim 3 have been incorporated into independent claim 1, the substance of allowable claim 42 has been incorporated into independent claim 40, the substance of allowable claim 50 has been incorporated into independent claim 48, and the substance of allowable claim 57 and intervening dependent claim 56 have been incorporated into independent claim 53. Accordingly, an indication of allowance for all remaining claims is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1 to 5, 13 to 25, 33 to 41, 44, 47 to 49, 52 to 55, 56 and 59 to 63 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0103371 ("Chen"). As indicated above, claims 3, 56 and 60 to 63 have been cancelled herein, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and without conceding the correctness of their rejections. Furthermore, each remaining independent claim has been amended to include the substance of a corresponding dependent allowable claim and all intervening claims, if necessary. Reconsideration and withdrawal of each of the rejections, as moot, and an indication of allowance for all claims are respectfully requested.

Finally, as to a formal matter, claims 4, 5, 7, 19, 43, 51, 54 and 58 have been amended herein to either correct minor editorial errors, or to adjust claim dependencies.

Accordingly, based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, independent claims 1, 40, 48 and 53 are believed to be allowable over the applied reference. The other rejected claims in the application are each dependent from the independent claims and are believed to be allowable

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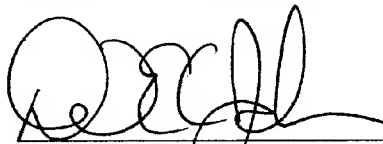
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over the applied references for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define additional aspects of the disclosure, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

No fees are believed to be due at this time. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06 1050. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,



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